GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:312
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2008
POWER HOLIDAYS
Bellarmin Shri A.V.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the `Power Holidays` introduced by some State Governments in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 312 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 19.12.2008 REGARDING POWER HOLIDAYS.

(a) & (b) : `Power Holiday` as a measure of power staggering was reportedly resorted to in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat. In Tamil Nadu power staggering was resorted to from 03.03.2008 to 15.5.2008 and from 21.07.2008 to 31.08.2008 as a part of demand side management measures to tackle the then power shortage in the State. The power holiday staggering is not in vogue in Tamil Nadu at present.

In Maharashtra, power staggering is being observed in Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. (MSEDCL) area for 24 hours per week to Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) industrial feeders. In Gujarat, there is one weekly staggered holiday for the non-continuous HT/LT consumers.

States normally notify power cuts on different categories of consumers keeping in view energy and / or peak seasonal and other shortages These measures and priority of supply to different sectors is a prerogative of the respective State Governments/Utilities.

(c) : Electricity is a concurrent subject under the Constitution. The supply and distribution of Electricity come under the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by setting up generating capacity in Central Sector through Central Sector Power Utilities.

The Government of India has been encouraging Demand Side Management and end user initiatives for energy conservation and energy efficiency to optimally manage the demand within the available power.